

Message Text

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12-S
ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NEA-09

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SP-02 NSC-05 USIE-00 /053 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 060

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINFO WASHDC

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS USDEL ASWAN 0070

SECTO 101

HEPARTMENT PASS NSCE FOR GEN. SNOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: REMARKS TO PRESS BY SEDRETARY KISSINGER AND PRESIDENT
SADAT FOLLOWING THEIR SECOND MEETING IN ASWAN, MARCH 8, 1975.

REF: STATE 24911

TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S AND PRES. SADAT'S REMARKS:

QUOTE AS YOU KNOW THE PRESIDENT AND I HAVE HAD EXTENSIVE TALKS
TODAY PARTLY ALONE AND PARTLY TOGETHER WITH OUR ASSOCIATES,
TO REVIEW ALL THE ELEMENTS THAT ARE INVOLVED IN MAKING
ANOTHER STEP TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I WILL NOW
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GO FIRST TO SYRIA AND THEN TO ISRAEL AND I WILL DISCUSS

THERE A SIMILAR RANGE OF ISSUES REGARDING THE ELEMENTS OF ANOTHER STEP. I WILL THEN RETURN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS

WITH THE PRESIDENT ON TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY. I AM HERE BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES VERY STRONGLY THAT ANOTHER STEP TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL OF THE PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND OF THE WORLD AND WE ARE DEDICATED TO MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION. I BELIEVE, THAT BASED ON THE DISCUSSIONS THAT I HAVE HAD, PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE.

QUESTION: HAVE YOU DISCUSSED, MR. SECRETARY, ANY POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER DISENGAGEMENT ON THE SYRIAN FRONT?

ANSWER: SECRETARY KISSINGER: WE DISCUSSED THE WHOLE RANGE OF PROBLEMS INVOLVED WITH PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND OF COURSE THAT INCLUDES ALL FRONTS.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, ARE YOU BRINGING CONCRETE IDEAS TO ISRAEL THAT YOU HAVE PICKED UP HERE FROM PRESIDENT SADAT?

ANSWER: SECRETARY KISSINGER: OBVIOUSLY IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS WE WILL BE DISCUSSING IDEAS AND ELEMENTS OF A POSSIBLE STEP; I DON'T THINK THE ORIGIN OF THESE IDEAS AND ELEMENTS IS OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE.

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, DO YOU THINK ENOUGH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TO MAKE YOU OPTIMISTIC ABOUT A SETTLEMENT?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WELL, AS I SAID BEFORE, I AM ALWAYS OPTIMISTIC, BUT I THINK WE SHALL BE HAVING A VERY HARD ROUND THIS TIME.

QUESTION: DID YOU DISCUSS THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION, MR. KISSINGER?

ANSWER: SECRETARY KISSINGER: I SAID WE DISCUSSED THE WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, WHEN YOU SAID A "HARD ROUND" DO YOU UNCLASSIFIED

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THINK IT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME? DO YOU THINK IT MIGHT TAKE THREE OR FOUR WEEKS?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WELL, I SHALL BE VERY HAPPY TO HAVE DR. KISSINGER AS LONG AS HE CAN AFFORD TO STAY WITH ME, BUT IT IS NOT A MATTER OF WEEKS OR SO. AS I SAID BEFORE, THE MISSION OF MY FRIEND DR. KISSINGER IS VERY IMPORTANT THIS

TIME BECAUSE WE ARE WORKING ON TWO VERY IMPORTANT POINTS:

THE FIRST POINT IS THE DEFUSION OF THE EXPLOSIVE SITUATION,
THE SECOND IS PUSHING THE PROCESS OF PEACE. FOR THAT I AM
SAYING IT IS THE HARDEST.

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, YOU SAID RECENTLY THAT YOU THINK NOW,
FOR THE FIRST TIME, PEACE IS POSSIBLE. CAN YOU PLEASE SAY
WHAT CHANGED TO MAKE IT SUCH AT THIS TIME? WHAT ELEMENTS
HAVE CHANGED?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WELL, I DID NOT SAY THIS YESTERDAY,
OR A WEEK BEFORE, I SAID IT A YEAR BEFORE WHEN I MET DR.
KISSINGER WHEN WE FULFILLED THE FIRST DISENGAGEMENT
AGG GENT. MY THEORY IS THIS: FOR TWENTY-SIX YEARS WE HAVE
NEVER ENJOYED ANY CONFIDENCE IN ISRAEL, AND THE SAME THING
HAPPENED, THAT ISRAEL NEVER ENJOYED ANY CONFIDENCE IN US.
THE MOMENT CAME WHEN DR. KISSINGER APPEARED ON THE STAGE AND
HE ENJOYED MY FULL CONFIDENCE, AND I THINK IT MUST BE
MENTIONED ALSO THAT HE SHOULD ENJOY THE FULL CONFIDENCE
OF ISRAEL AFTER ALL THAT HE HAS DONE FOR ISRAEL, AND ALL
THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS DONE. SO THAT I AM SAYING, FOR
THE FIRST TIME IN TWENTY-SIX YEARS PEACE IS POSSIBLE.

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, DO YOU THINK THAT NO FORM OF WARFARE
IS USEFUL IN THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: THIS IS QUITE TRUE FROM MY
POUXT OF VIEW, AND I THINK THE OCTOBER WAR HAS PROVED THAT
WHATEVER POWER ANY PARTY HAS, IT CANNOT IMPOSE CONDITIONS
ON THE OTHER.

QUESTION. WHAT ABOUT OTHER FORMS OF WARFARE, MR. PREESIDENT?
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ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WELL, DO YOU HAVE IN MIND WHAT YOU
CALL PREVENTIVE WAR?

QUESTION: ECONOMIC WARFARE.

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WHEN WE DISCUSS PEACE, WE SHALL BE
DISCUSSING PEACE IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS. BUT LET US FIRST
DEFUSE THE EXPLOSIVE SITUATION, THEN AFTER THAT WE CAN DISCUSS
IT.

QUESTION
: MR. PRESIDENT: COULD YOU SAY THAT AFTER YOUR TALKS
TODAY, YOU FEEL THINGS LOOK HARDER THAN THEY DID BEFORE YOUR
TALKS TODAY?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: AWELL, MY FRIEND, IT IS TRUE THAT I FEEL THAT THIS TIME IT IS HARDER. IT IS TRUE.

QUESTION: IS IT HARDER, MR. PRESIDENT, BECAUSE YOU WANT TO TO FURTHER THIS TIME THAN YOU DID LAST TIME IN THE RANGE OF WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WELL, AS I TOLD YOU, WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE THIS TIME IS KEEPONG THE MOMENTUM OF THE PEACE CAUSE AND DEFUSING THE EXPLOSIVE SITUATION.

QUESTION: ARE THE PROSPECTS BETTER OR WORSE AFTER TODAY'S TALKS?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: I CANNOT TELL UNTIL DR. KISSINGER RETURNS.

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, IS THE QUESTION OF A WRITTEN NON-WAR PLEDGE BY EGYPT A NEGOTIABLE ISSUE AS FAR AS YOU ARE CONCERNED?

ANSWER: PRESIDENT SADAT: WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THIS. NOT YET. WE HAVE NOT REACHED IT. BUT DO YOU MEAN NON-BELLIGERENCY? AS I TOLD YOU, IF I AM GOING TO AGREE TO NON-UNCLASSIFIED

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BELLIGERENCY WHILE THERE IS ONE ISRAELI SOLDIER OCCUPYING MY LAND, THIS WOULD MEAN AN OFFICIAL INVITATION TO CONTINUE OCCUPYING MY LAND, AND I AM NOT GOING TO EXTEND THIS INVITATION.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU EXPECT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO MEET SOON?

ANSWER:
SECRETARY KISSINGER: WE HAVE ALWAYS STATED OUR READINESS TO GO TO GENEVA. WHEN I MET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO IN GENEVA LAST WEEK, WE INDICATED THAT WE WERE PREPARED FOR AN EARLY RESUMPTION AT AN EARLY DATE.

QUESTION: HAVE YOU DISCUSSED THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT SADAT TO THE UNITED STATES?

ANSWER: SECRETARY KISSINGER: PRESIDENT SADAT KNOWS THAT HE IS ALWAYS WELCOME AND I HOPE THAT AFTER WE CONCLUDE THESE NEGOTIATION WE WILL BE ABLE TO ARRANGE SOME FIRM DATE. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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